

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. **(Currently Amended)** A TGF- $\beta$  gene expression inhibitor comprising a pyrrole-imidazole polyamide containing: an N-methylpyrrole unit (hereinafter also referred to as Py), an N-methylimidazole unit (hereinafter also referred to as Im) and a  $\gamma$ -aminobutyrate unit, wherein said pyrrole-imidazole polyamide can be folded into a U-shaped conformation at the  $\gamma$ -aminobutyrate unit in a minor groove of a double helix region (hereinafter referred to as target region) which comprises ~~a part of~~ all of the following base sequence from -557 to -536 (SEQ ID NO: 1) in a human transforming growth factor  $\beta$ 1 (hereinafter also referred to as hTGF- $\beta$ 1) promoter, and a complementary strand thereof:

TAAAGGAGAGCAATTCTTACAG (SEQ ID NO: 1)

wherein a Py/Im pair corresponds to a C-G base pair, an Im/Py pair corresponds to a G-C base pair, and a Py/Py pair corresponds to both an A-T base pair and a T-A base pair.

2. **(Original)** The TGF- $\beta$  gene expression inhibitor according to claim 1, further comprising a  $\beta$ -alanine unit.

3. **(Currently Amended)** The TGF- $\beta$  gene expression inhibitor according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said target region is a double helix region comprising a part or all of the following base sequence from -548 to -537 (SEQ ID NO: 2) in the hTGF- $\beta$ 1 promoter, and a complementary strand thereof, thereof:

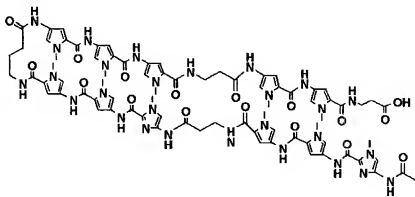
GCAATTCTTACA (SEQ ID NO: 2).

4. **(Currently Amended)** The TGF- $\beta$  gene expression inhibitor according to claim 3, wherein said target region is a double helix region which comprises a part or all of the following base sequence from -544 to -538 (SEQ ID NO: 3) in the hTGF- $\beta$ 1 promoter, and a complementary strand thereof, thereof:

TTCTTAC (SEQ ID NO: 3).

5. **(Currently Amended)** The TGF- $\beta$  gene expression inhibitor according to claim 1, wherein said pyrrole-imidazole polyamide is represented by the following formula:

[Formula 1]



wherein the terminal carboxyl group of said pyrrole-imidazole polyamide optionally [[forms]] is an amide,

wherein the optional amide is ~~optionally bonded to an amide of the compound~~ represented by Formula 1 with N, N-dimethylaminopropylamine, and

said pyrrole-imidazole polyamide is optionally ~~conjugated~~ bonded to fluorescein-isothiocyanate.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The TGF- $\beta$  gene expression inhibitor according to claim 5, wherein the terminal carboxyl group of said pyrrole-imidazole polyamide [[forms an]] is the amide.

7. **(Previously Presented)** The TGF- $\beta$  gene expression inhibitor according to claim 6, wherein said amide is bonded to N, N-dimethylaminopropylamine.

8. **(Previously Presented)** The TGF- $\beta$  gene expression inhibitor according to any one of claims 5 to 7, wherein said pyrrole-imidazole polyamide forms a conjugate with fluorescein-isothiocyanate.

9. **(Previously Presented)** A pyrrole-imidazole polyamide represented by the following formula:

[Formula 2]

